



**S E C R E T // N O F O R N // 20331229**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**  
HEADQUARTERS, JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO  
U.S. NAVAL STATION, GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA  
APO AE 09360



JTF-GTMO-CDR

29 December 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, United States Southern Command, 3511 NW 91st Avenue, Miami, FL 33172.

SUBJECT: Response to the Designated Civilian Official (DCO) Decision to Transfer Guantanamo Detainee, AL ZUHAYRI, AHMAD ZAYID SALIM, ISN US9SA-000669DP (S)

(S//NF) Although there is no new information discovered since his most recent assessment of 12 May 2008, JTF-GTMO strongly objects to the transfer of SA-669 based on the following key data points. JTF-GTMO continues to determine this detainee to be a **HIGH** risk, as he is likely to pose a threat to the US, its interests, and allies. Detainee is a likely recidivist candidate.

(S//NF) Background: Detainee is a member of al-Qaida and a veteran militant responsible for terrorist acts in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BK). Detainee participated in the murder of a US citizen and orchestrated a car bombing against civilians. Detainee recruited militants in order to target US citizens. Detainee reportedly assisted in the planning of the attack on the USS COLE and is associated with an operative in a failed attack against US personnel in Yemen (YM). Detainee is assessed to have received advanced militant training at multiple al-Qaida affiliated training camps, participated in hostilities against US and Coalition forces, and is linked to the procurement, use, and distribution of false documents for extremists. Detainee was connected to extremist elements in Afghanistan (AF) and associated with multiple non-governmental organizations (NGO) linked to terrorism support.

1. (U) Details:

- (S//NF) Detainee is responsible for the November 1995 murder of US citizen, William Jefferson.<sup>1</sup>
- (S//NF) According to a Bosnian Agency for Investigation and Documentation (BAID) document, detainee is identified as participating in "terrorist activities organized and encouraged on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, terrorist activities of international importance directed towards foreign citizens in Bosnia and Herzegovina."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> IIR 7 133 0023 01, IIR 7 131 0006 02, 000669 FBIS EUP200220325000195 25-MAR-2002, Jefferson Shooting MDITDS 4-Dec-1995, 000335 Transfer Objection 09-Oct-2007

<sup>2</sup> IIR 7 130 1056 02 (paragraphs 5-7)

**CLASSIFIED BY:** MULTIPLE SOURCES  
**REASON:** E.O. 12958, AS AMENDED, SECTION 1.4(C)  
**DECLASSIFY ON:** 20331229

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- (S//NF) Detainee planned and conducted a car-bomb attack against civilians in Mostar, BK. The explosion injured a large number of civilians and inflicted heavy material damage.<sup>3</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee recruited a small group of fighters to look for American targets.<sup>4</sup>
- (S//NF) Khalid Shaykh Muhammad, aka (KSM), aka (Mukhtar), ISN US9KU-010024DP (KU-10024), provided detainee with financial support.<sup>5</sup>
- (S//NF) YM-252 stated detainee regularly met with Usama Bin Laden (UBL) and had connections with unidentified Taliban leaders.<sup>6</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee reportedly assisted in the planning of the attack on the USS COLE. Detainee praised al-Qaida and UBL, stating UBL was a good man who was going to kill Americans.<sup>7</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee is assessed to have received advanced militant training at multiple al-Qaida affiliated training camps and participated in hostilities against US and Coalition forces.<sup>8</sup> Abu Yasir al-Jazaeri and Fahd Umar Abd Al-Majid al-Umari al-Sharif, ISN US9SA-000215DP (SA-215) photo-identified detainee as Usama Shaibi Zahrani and stated detainee received all the training that was available at the Khaldan and al-Faruq training camps.<sup>9</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee is linked to the procurement, use, and distribution of false documents for extremists. From 1992 to 1993, detainee possessed 500 blank Bosnian passports, which he provided to the fighters. KU-10024 may have received his false Bosnian passport from detainee.<sup>10</sup>
- (S//NF) A member of the Stabilization Force's (SFOR) Joint Anti-Terrorist Task Force recognized detainee as Ahmed Zuhairi, aka (Handala),<sup>11</sup> Detainee, along with many other fighters, actively participated in criminal activities such as the theft and illegal trade of vehicles, weapons, military equipment, and falsified documents.<sup>12</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee's alias appears on a document listing individuals who are accused of being terrorists and who have connections to Bosnia.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> 000669 KB SUP 19-APR-2006, 000669 FM40 08-Nov-2004, IIR 7 130 0120 02, 000669 STATE DEPT MSG 12-JAN-1998, FBIS FTS19980601000376, TD-314/16772-02, 000669 FBIS FTS19971227000395 27-DEC-1997, 000669 Liberation Bosnian National Daily from Sarajevo 26-DEC-1997

<sup>4</sup> 000669 FM40 08-Nov-2004

<sup>5</sup> TD-314/13598-03

<sup>6</sup> 000252 FM40 05-JAN-2005, 000252 FM40 15-MAR-2005, 000252 302 11-APR-2003

<sup>7</sup> IIR 6 034 0115 05, IIR 2 340 7279 02

<sup>8</sup> >TD-314/36178-04

<sup>9</sup> 000215 SIR 13-OCT-2005, TD-314/55561-05

<sup>10</sup> TD-314/13598-03

<sup>11</sup> IIR 7 130 0120 02

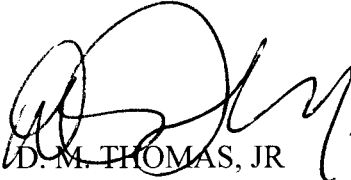
<sup>12</sup> IIR 7 130 0120 02, IIR 7 130 1056 02, IIR 7 718 0012 02 (Paragraph 2)

<sup>13</sup> IIR 1 663 2532 04

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- (S//NF) Bosnian officials labeled detainee as a dangerous and a powerful “possible foreign Islamic extremist” at the field operative level.<sup>14</sup>
  - (S//NF) Detainee is associated with other extremists and NGOs with known terrorism ties in Bosnia and Afghanistan.<sup>15</sup>
  - (S//NF) Detainee is reported to be the leader of al-Takfir Wa al-Hijra in Bosnia. According to a National Air and Space Intelligence Center report on al-Qaida representation in Bosnia, one of the groups first reported to be linked to al-Qaida in Bosnia was the al-Takfir wa al-Hijra, led by Handala al-Saudi (a variant of detainee’s alias).<sup>16</sup>
  - (S//NF) Senior al-Qaida facilitator Sharqawi Abdu Ali al-Hajj, aka (Riyadh the Facilitator), ISN PK9YM-001457DP (YM-1457), reported he saw detainee at the Kandahar house of Abu Dhahak.<sup>17</sup> Abu Dhahak is the Afghanistan-based financier and facilitator for deceased Chechnya militant commander, Ibn al-Khattab, aka (Emir Khattab).
  - (S//NF) Detainee was identified as a substitute for an impending multiple-suicide at JTF-GTMO.
2. (S//NF) If released without rehabilitation, close supervision, and means to successfully reintegrate into his society as a law-abiding citizen, it is assessed detainee would immediately seek out prior associates and reengage in hostilities and extremist support activities at home and abroad.



D. M. THOMAS, JR  
Rear Admiral, US Navy  
Commanding

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<sup>14</sup> IIR 7 133 0023 01

<sup>15</sup> IIR 4 201 2234 06, IIR 7 130 0120 02, TD-314/49641-01

<sup>16</sup> NAIC Bosnia NGO Summary 03-DEC-2001, TD-314/17329-97, 000669 FBIS EUP200220325000195 25-MAR-2002, IIR 7 130 0120 02

<sup>17</sup> IIR 6 034 0059 05, IIR 6 034 0110 05



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APO AE 09360



JTF-GTMO-CDR

12 May 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, United States Southern Command, 3511 NW 91st Avenue, Miami, FL 33172

SUBJECT: Recommendation for Continued Detention Under DoD Control (CD) for Guantanamo Detainee, ISN US9SA-000669DP (S)

### **JTF-GTMO Detainee Assessment**

#### **1. (S) Personal Information:**

- JDIMS/NDRC Reference Name: Ahmed Zeid Salem Zohair
- Current/True Name and Aliases: Ahmad Zayid Salim al-Zuhayri, Handala al-Saudi, Faiz al-Sanberi, Usama Shaibi Zahrani, Ahmed Zayed Abu Muhammad, Ahmed al-Makki, Ahmad Hasan Mushin al-Nahari
- Place of Birth: Jeddah, Saudi Arabia (SA)
- Date of Birth: 16 October 1965
- Citizenship: Saudi Arabia
- Internment Serial Number (ISN): US9SA-000669DP



**2. (U//FOUO) Health:** Detainee is in fair health.

#### **3. (U) JTF-GTMO Assessment:**

**a. (S) Recommendation:** JTF-GTMO recommends this detainee for Continued Detention Under DoD Control (CD). JTF-GTMO previously recommended detainee for Continued Detention Under DoD Control (CD) on 6 November 2007.

**b. (S//NF) Executive Summary:** Detainee is a member of al-Qaida and a veteran militant responsible for terrorist acts in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BK). Detainee participated in the murder of a US citizen and orchestrated a car bombing against civilians. Detainee recruited mujahideen in order to target US citizens. Detainee reportedly assisted in the planning of the attack on the USS COLE and is associated with an operative in a failed attack against US personnel in Yemen (YM). Detainee is assessed to have received advanced militant training

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at multiple al-Qaida affiliated training camps, participated in hostilities against US and Coalition forces, and is linked to the procurement, use, and distribution of false documents for extremists. Detainee was connected to extremist elements in Afghanistan (AF) and associated with multiple non-governmental organizations (NGO) linked to terrorism support. **[ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THIS DETAINEE IS AVAILABLE IN AN SCI SUPPLEMENT.]** JTF-GTMO determined this detainee to be:

- A **HIGH** risk, as he is likely to pose a threat to the US, its interests, and allies
- A **HIGH** threat from a detention perspective
- Of **HIGH** intelligence value

**c. (S//NF) Summary of Changes:** The following outlines changes to detainee's assessment since the last JTF-GTMO recommendation. (Changes in this assessment will be annotated by ➤ next to the footnote.)

- Added alias Ahmad Hasan Mushin al-Nahari<sup>1</sup>
- Updated detainee's capture data
- Included detainee's admitted association with a senior Yemeni facilitator tied to the USS COLE bombing
- Included reporting which indicates detainee participated in hostilities against US and Coalition forces
- Updated detainee's SCI supplement

#### **4. (U) Detainee's Account of Events:**

**The following section is based, unless otherwise indicated, on detainee's own account. These statements are included without consideration of veracity, accuracy, or reliability.**

**a. (S//NF) Prior History:** Detainee received only six years of conventional education and was employed as a trader, buying and selling sheep. In 1987, detainee traveled from Yemen to Pakistan (PK). Detainee returned to Yemen at an unspecified date and remained there until the winter of 1995 when he traveled to Croatia via Turkey and Germany. In Croatia, detainee married a Croatian woman who currently resides in Virginia.<sup>2</sup> In the spring of 1996, detainee traveled to Jeddah before returning to Croatia later that year. Sometime between fall 1996 and approximately 1998 when detainee returned to Yemen, he was arrested in Bosnia for a traffic accident and received a five-year sentence. Detainee served

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<sup>1</sup> CJTF76 Detainee list

<sup>2</sup> IIR 4 201 2233 06, 000669 SIR 20-JAN-2003, Analyst Note: Detainee has provided conflicting information regarding his number of spouses. Detainee has indicated as many as ten and as few as three. 000669 KB SUP 19-APR-2006, 000669 SIR 22-APR-2004

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approximately fifteen months of this sentence before he was released for good behavior and returned to Yemen.<sup>3</sup>

**b. (S//NF) Recruitment and Travel:** In Sanaa, YM, detainee's occupations included importing and exporting sheep to Jeddah. Detainee befriended a man named Yahya Khan who convinced him to travel to Pakistan to buy motorcycle parts.<sup>4</sup> Yahya traveled ahead to Pakistan. Approximately October 2001, detainee arrived in Karachi, PK. Detainee met Yahya and the pair continued to Lahore, PK, where detainee resided for about twenty days.<sup>5</sup>

**c. (S//NF) Training and Activities:** In Lahore, detainee's aunt contacted him and told him about a female cousin who had been taken to Afghanistan by an Afghan man in 2000. Detainee told his aunt he would attempt to retrieve his cousin and hired four Pakistani men at the Dawa Center in Lahore to escort him to Gardez, AF. The group traveled to Gardez via Khowst, AF, and located the family who was holding detainee's cousin. Detainee spent a few days in Gardez negotiating with the family for his cousin and then returned to Lahore with her.<sup>6</sup> According to detainee, upon his return to Lahore, detainee hid his cousin from the public. The Afghan man who originally took detainee's cousin followed them to Lahore. When detainee refused to return his cousin to the Afghan's custody, the Afghan man told Pakistani authorities that detainee had kidnapped his wife and detainee was arrested in December 2001 or January 2002.<sup>7</sup>

## **5. (U) Capture Information:**

**a. (S//NF)** There is no official reporting of detainee's capture. It is assessed detainee fled hostilities in Afghanistan approximately December 2001 or January 2002 and traveled to Lahore with the assistance of the Lashkar-e-Tayyiba (LT) network which assisted large numbers of al-Qaida personnel. In Lahore, detainee probably stayed in LT safe houses used by other al-Qaida members, facilitation for which was coordinated with al-Qaida facilitators Zayn al-Abidin Muhammad Husayn, aka (Abu Zubaydah), ISN US9GZ-10016DP, and Abu Bakr Muhammad Bulghiti, aka (Abu Yasir al-Jazairi).<sup>8</sup> Abu Yasir reported he saw detainee

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<sup>3</sup> IIR 6 034 0683 02, IIR 4 201 2390 06, IIR 4 201 2233 06, 000669 302 03-AUG-2002, 000669 302 08-AUG-2002, Analyst Note: Detainee spent seven to eight months of his sentence in Novi Travnik, BK, and another seven to eight months in Mostar, BK.

<sup>4</sup> 000669 KB 22-JUN-2002

<sup>5</sup> 000669 302 15-JUN-2002, 000669 KB 22-JUN-2002, 000669 KB SUP 19-APR-2006

<sup>6</sup> 000669 302 15-JUN-2002

<sup>7</sup> 000669 302 15-JUN-2002, 000669 CAPDATA 20-MAY-2002 (2), Analyst Note: No official reporting on his capture is available, but the CJTF76 database entry for detainee lists his date of capture as 19 January 2002 in Lahore by Pakistani authorities, his in-processed date is listed as 6 April 2002.

<sup>8</sup> >TD-314/24217-04, TD-314/25230-04, TD-314/19954-03, TD-314/38077-02, TD-314/20711-02, TD-314/66073-06, TD-314/33381-07

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in Lahore in January or February 2002.<sup>9</sup> The house occupied by detainee was probability raided by Pakistani officials and he was detained. Detainee was held in jail for a week until he was transferred to a prison in Islamabad, PK, for two or three months. Detainee was transferred to US custody by 20 May 2002.<sup>10</sup>

**b. (S) Property Held:**

- Casio Model A159W watch<sup>11</sup>
- Although not held at JTF-GTMO, detainee claimed to possess Saudi and United Arab Emirates passports at the time of his capture<sup>12</sup>

**c. (S) Transferred to JTF-GTMO: 14 June 2002**

**d. (S//NF) Reasons for Transfer to JTF-GTMO:** To provide information on the following:

- Location frequented by Pakistani volunteers for entry into Afghanistan
- Procedures of Pakistani police and the handling of potential detainees for transfer to US forces

**6. (S//NF) Evaluation of Detainee's Account:** Detainee's account is only partially truthful. Detainee's claimed purpose for travel to Afghanistan is implausible and assessed to be a fabrication to conceal his identity, associations to extremist organizations, and his activities in Southwest Asia, the Middle East, and Europe. While detainee admits to being in Bosnia and Afghanistan, he has provided conflicting information and fails to provide credible details of his activities. Detainee's primary cover story is he went to Afghanistan to retrieve his cousin who had been taken there in 2000. However, in detainee's initial screening, he stated he traveled to Gardez where he simply met a Saudi woman who wanted to leave her husband.<sup>13</sup> Detainee withholds information of intelligence value which demonstrates his continued support for extremism.

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<sup>9</sup> >TD-314/55561-05

<sup>10</sup> 000669 CAPDATA 20-MAY-2002, 000669 KB 22-JUN-2002

<sup>11</sup> Analyst Note: The possession of a Casio A159W model watch (or the black-color version of this model, the F-91W), is an indicator of al-Qaida training in the manufacture of IEDs. A JTF-GTMO detainee identified the Casio watch as "the sign of al-Qaida, [which] uses the watch to make bombs." The Casio was known to be given to the students at al-Qaida bomb-making training courses in Afghanistan, at which the students received instruction in the preparation of timing devices using the watch. For additional details see 000174 SIR 29-Dec-2006, 000002 MFR 24-APR-2002, Casio Watch Electronic Analysis Report 19-Aug-2004, Casio Watches and Relationship to Detainees 20-Apr-2006

<sup>12</sup> 000669 SIR 20-JAN-2003

<sup>13</sup> 000669 SIR 20-JAN-2003

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**7. (U) Detainee Threat:**

**a. (S) Assessment:** Detainee is assessed to be a **HIGH** risk, as he is likely to pose a threat to the US, its interests, and allies.

**b. (S//NF) Reasons for Continued Detention:** Detainee is a member of al-Qaida and a veteran extremist responsible for terrorist acts in Bosnia including the murder of a US citizen and a car bombing against civilians. Detainee recruited a small group of mujahideen in order to target US citizens. Detainee reportedly assisted in the planning of the attack on the USS COLE and is associated with an operative in a failed attack against US forces in Yemen. Detainee is assessed to have received advanced militant training at multiple al-Qaida affiliated training camps and participated in hostilities against US and Coalition forces. Detainee is linked to the procurement, use, and distribution of false documents for extremists. Detainee was connected to extremist elements in Afghanistan and associated with NGOs linked to terrorism support.

- (S//NF) Detainee is a member of al-Qaida and a veteran extremist responsible for terrorist acts in Bosnia including the murder of a US citizen and a car bombing against civilians.
  - (S//NF) Detainee is responsible for the November 1995 murder of US citizen, William Jefferson, a staff member with the United Nations in Tuzla, BK. Evidence found in detainee's home in Bosnia included a watch and portable stereo that belonged to William Jefferson.<sup>14</sup> Police claimed detainee's close associate Faiz al-Shamberi, the other suspect in the murder, possessed the pistol with which William Jefferson was shot three times in the head.<sup>15</sup>
    - (S//NF) According to a Bosnian Agency for Investigation and Documentation (BAID) document, detainee is identified as participating in "terrorist activities organized and encouraged on the territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina, terrorist activities of international importance directed towards foreign citizens in Bosnia and Herzegovina." Detainee is also listed an associate of individuals connected to a weapon used in the "murder threat of an unknown individual."<sup>16</sup>
  - (S//NF) Detainee planned and conducted a car-bomb attack against civilians in Mostar, BK. Between January and September 1997, detainee, Ali Ahmed Ali Hamad, and Nabil Ali al-Hilah planned the car bomb attack in Mostar. On 18 September 1997, they transported the explosive device from Zeljezno Polje, BK, to

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<sup>14</sup> IIR 7 133 0023 01, IIR 7 131 0006 02

<sup>15</sup> 000669 FBIS EUP200220325000195 25-MAR-2002, Jefferson Shooting MDITDS 4-Dec-1995, 000335 Transfer Objection 09-Oct-2007

<sup>16</sup> IIR 7 130 1056 02 (paragraphs 5-7)



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Mostar where the device was detonated. The explosion injured a large number of civilians and inflicted heavy material damage. An investigation of this terrorist act confirmed that detainee organized and perpetrated the act.<sup>17</sup> (Analyst Note: Bosnian Supreme Court Decision KZ-41-2000, dated 18 April 2000, sentenced detainee to twelve years in prison for the criminal act of terrorism.)

- (U//FOUO) According to open source reporting, Ali Hamad reported he and detainee planted the bomb with the assistance of Saleh Nedal, a Yemeni mujahid. Hamad added detainee had already planned the operation so he could exact revenge and at the time detainee demanded 80 kg of explosives from him.<sup>18</sup> The explosive device, which they placed in a residential area, was made up of 15 anti-tank mines, 10 450-gram TNT cubes, 20 anti-personnel mines, and 15 kg of plastic explosive.<sup>19</sup>
- (S//NF) Ali Hamad, who was serving a 12-year prison sentence at the Zenica Prison in Bosnia for his involvement with detainee in the 1997 Mostar car-bombing operation, identified detainee as a "definite" member of al-Qaida.<sup>20</sup>
- (S//NF) Nabil Ali al-Hilah, aka (Abu Yemeni), was imprisoned in Bosnia in 1998 for his role in the 1997 car bombing in Mostar.<sup>21</sup> He was also charged for his affiliation with al-Qaida.<sup>22</sup> (Analyst Note: Nabil Ali al-Hilah is the brother of Abd al-Salam al-Hilah, ISN US9YM-001463DP (YM-1463).)<sup>23</sup>
- (S//NF) Ali Hamad reported detainee believed America was the greatest enemy of Islam and, therefore, decided to remain in Bosnia and continue the fight against Americans during the period that most mujahideen returned to their homelands in 1995. Detainee recruited a small group of fighters to look for American targets.<sup>24</sup>
- (S//NF) Khalid Shaykh Muhammad, aka (KSM), aka (Mukhtar), ISN US9KU-010024DP (KU-10024), provided detainee with financial support. According to an unidentified source, an individual named Ahmad Zuhair (assessed to be detainee), led

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<sup>17</sup> IIR 7 130 0120 02, 000669 STATE DEPT MSG 12-JAN-1998, 000669 KB SUP 19-APR-2006

<sup>18</sup> Analyst Note: Court proceedings reportedly noted detainee's actions were a vengeful act citing "Handala gained revenge against the Croats because of his own stay in the HVO (Croatian Democratic Council) prison near Busovaca, but also because a Bosniak was set on fire and murdered in his house in Jajce." FBIS FTS19980601000376. Detainee's imprisonment by the Croats due to weapons smuggling is discussed later. This demonstrates detainee's unwillingness to accept responsibility for his own actions (detainee was arrested for weapons smuggling, and took revenge for being arrested) and as such it is assessed he will commit other acts of terrorism for any assumed impropriety against him.

<sup>19</sup> TD-314/16772-02, 000669 FBIS FTS19971227000395 27-DEC-1997, 000669 Liberation Bosnian National Daily from Sarajevo 26-DEC-1997

<sup>20</sup> 000669 FM40 08-Nov-2004

<sup>21</sup> TD-314/21041-99, TD-314/19570-02, TD-314/03657-02, IIR 7 131 0030 02, Analyst Note: A variant of al-Hilah is al-Heela.

<sup>22</sup> FBIS 6-NOV-2003

<sup>23</sup> 001463 SIR 30-NOV-2004

<sup>24</sup> 000669 FM40 08-Nov-2004

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- a special unit within the al-Mujahid Brigade in Bosnia. In 1993, KU-10024 decided to give all his financial support [in Bosnia] to Ahmad Zuhair following an argument with mujahid commander Abu Maali, aka (Abd al-Qadir al-Mukhtari).<sup>25</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee's accomplice in the Mostar car bombing attack, Ali Hamad, stated he did not know if KU-10024 met with detainee. Hamad reported KU-10024 met with Abu Zubair al-Haili's group of fighters, of which detainee was a member.<sup>26</sup>
  - (S//NF) Senior al-Qaida facilitator Abu Yasir al-Jazairi photo-identified detainee as Abu Handala, who was a fighter against Soviet occupation in Afghanistan. Al-Jazairi first met detainee in 1988 or 1989 in Peshawar. Al-Jazairi stated detainee was a Yemeni who he again saw in late-2001 in Kandahar and last saw in Lahore in approximately January or February 2002.<sup>27</sup> (Analyst Note: Detainee acknowledged traveling to Pakistan in 1987.<sup>28</sup>)
  - (S//NF) Yasin Muhammad Salih Mazeab Basardah, ISN US9YM-000252DP (YM-252), photo-identified detainee as a Saudi with extensive experience as a extremist fighter. YM-252 stated detainee fought in Bosnia, Chechnya, and Afghanistan. YM-252 flew on the same plane as detainee to Pakistan, saw detainee at the al-Nebras Guesthouse in Kandahar, AF, and then in Kabul, AF at the Azzam Guesthouse. YM-252 stated detainee regularly met with Usama Bin Laden (UBL) and had connections with unidentified Taliban leaders.<sup>29</sup>
    - (S//NF) Analyst Note: Both of the guesthouses in which YM-252 saw detainee are known al-Qaida guesthouses. YM-252 reported traveling to Afghanistan in April 2001, six months prior to detainee's claimed travel.
  - (S//NF) Detainee reportedly assisted in the planning of the attack on the USS COLE. (See SCI supplement for additional information)
    - (S//NF) Hafiz Qari Muhammad Saad Iqbal Madni, ISN US9PK-000743DP (PK-743), reported detainee confided that he was involved in the planning of the attack against the USS COLE in October 2000. Detainee praised al-Qaida and UBL, stating UBL was a good man who was going to kill Americans.<sup>30</sup>
    - (S//NF) An unidentified source reported detainee admitted to another detainee (probably when detained in Afghanistan) that he was involved in the bombing of the USS COLE. Detainee also provided instruction to this confidant and other detainees on counter-interrogation techniques, informing them to deny everything, even if presented with photographic evidence.<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> TD-314/13598-03

<sup>26</sup> 000669 FM40 08-Nov-2004

<sup>27</sup> TD-314/55561-05

<sup>28</sup> IIR 4 201 2234 06

<sup>29</sup> 000252 FM40 05-JAN-2005, 000252 FM40 15-MAR-2005, 000252 302 11-APR-2003

<sup>30</sup> IIR 6 034 0115 05

<sup>31</sup> IIR 2 340 7279 02

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- (S//NF) The unidentified associate reported detainee's associate, Nabil Ali al-Hilah, was also extremely close to Hassan al-Khamiri and Taha al-Ahdal in Bosnia.<sup>32</sup> Al-Khamiri was one of the operatives in the USS COLE bombing, and al-Ahdal participated in the failed USS THE SULLIVANS attack.<sup>33</sup> (Analyst Note: Detainee probably associated with these individuals as well due to his own association with al-Hilah in Bosnia.)
- (S//NF) Detainee admitted associating with senior Yemeni facilitator Abdul Razzaq, aka (Abdul Razzaq al-Najjar), aka (Abu Salih al-Yemeni), aka (Abd al-Razzaq Ba Salih).<sup>34</sup> Abdul Razzaq reportedly played a vital role in the USS COLE attack and was one of the most active operational commanders in al-Qaida as of 2001.<sup>35</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee is assessed to have received advanced militant training at multiple al-Qaida affiliated training camps and participated in hostilities against US and Coalition forces.
  - (S//NF) Al-Qaida operational commander and mastermind of the USS COLE bombing Abd al-Rahim Hussayn Muhammad al-Nashiri, US9SA-010015DP (SA-10015), photo identified detainee as Abu Handallah al-Yemeni, whom he described as a Yemeni fighter he saw in Zormat, AF during their escape from coalition attacks in late 2001.<sup>36</sup>
  - (S//NF) A variant of detainee's alias, Handala, was included on a list of *emirs* (leaders) in Tora Bora.<sup>37</sup>
  - (S//NF) Ali Hamad said detainee first trained at the Jaffar Camp in Afghanistan and then other camps to include al-Faruq, Khaldan, and al-Sada.<sup>38</sup> Hamad stated detainee had already received training by the time he (Hamad) traveled to Afghanistan in 1990.<sup>39</sup>
    - (U) The Sada Training Camp was identified in the founding minutes of al-Qaida as an open camp from which the best [fighters] would be selected to join al-Qaida.<sup>40</sup>
  - (S//NF) Abu Yasir al-Jazaeri and Fahd Umar Abd Al-Majid al-Umari al-Sharif, ISN US9SA-000215DP (SA-215) reported detainee's presence in Afghanistan and along the front lines in late 2001. SA-215 photo-identified detainee as Usama Shaibi

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<sup>32</sup> TD-314/03657-02

<sup>33</sup> TD-314/03657-02

<sup>34</sup> > IIR 4 201 2390 06

<sup>35</sup> > CIR 316/16547-07

<sup>36</sup> > TD-314/36178-04

<sup>37</sup> > IIR 6 034 0281 07

<sup>38</sup> Analyst Note: Variant: The Jaffar Camp is written as Javar in the report, and is probably the Duranta camp affiliated with North African extremist facilitator Omar Chaabani, aka (Abu Jaffar al-Jazaeiri), in Jalalabad, AF.

<sup>39</sup> 000669 FM40 08-NOV-2004

<sup>40</sup> Arnaout 892 (page 33), usarnaout10603prof (page 35 and 36)

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- Zahrani and stated detainee received all the training that was available at the Khaldan and al-Faruq training camps. SA-215 met detainee on the Kabul front line in 2001 and stated detainee stayed at the Hamza al-Qaiti Guesthouse for approximately two to three months.<sup>41</sup> (Analyst Note: Hamza al-Qaiti was an al-Qaida operative who facilitated training and coordinated movement of al-Qaida members in Afghanistan.)
- (FOUO//LES) Ali Hamad described detainee as already being “the perfect soldier” prior to arriving in Bosnia.<sup>42</sup>
  - (S//NF) Detainee is linked to the procurement, use, and distribution of false documents for extremists.
    - (S//NF) From 1992 to 1993, detainee possessed 500 blank Bosnian passports, which he provided to the fighters. KU-10024 may have received his false Bosnian passport from detainee.<sup>43</sup>
    - (S//NF) A member of the Stabilization Force’s (SFOR) Joint Anti-Terrorist Task Force recognized detainee as Ahmed Zuhairi, aka (Handala), a fighter who had been detained on two occasions by Bosnian officials after December 1995.<sup>44</sup> The SFOR member noted detainee, along with many other fighters, actively participated in criminal activities such as the theft and illegal trade of vehicles, weapons, military equipment, and falsified documents. The other members of detainee’s group were closely connected to the combatant network in Bosnia.<sup>45</sup>
    - (S//NF) Detainee’s name and photo were included on a BAID report under the heading of “Forgers and Vehicle Thieves.”<sup>46</sup>
    - (S//NF) Detainee’s alias (Ahmed Handala) is included on a list of Islamic extremists with probable ties to al-Qaida. These extremists had illegally obtained legitimate Bosnian passports.<sup>47</sup>
    - (S//NF) Detainee’s alias appears on a document listing individuals who are accused of being terrorists and who have connections to Bosnia.<sup>48</sup>
    - (S//NF) Bosnian officials labeled detainee as a dangerous and a powerful “possible foreign Islamic extremist” at the field operative level.<sup>49</sup>
  - (S//NF) Detainee is associated with other extremists and NGOs with known terrorism ties in Bosnia and Afghanistan.
    - (S//NF) Detainee claimed he worked for the al-Haramain International Foundation in Croatia in 1995.<sup>50</sup> Detainee was also closely associated with the

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<sup>41</sup> 000215 SIR 13-OCT-2005, TD-314/55561-05

<sup>42</sup> >000669 FM40 08-NOV-2004

<sup>43</sup> TD-314/13598-03

<sup>44</sup> IIR 7 130 0120 02

<sup>45</sup> IIR 7 130 0120 02

<sup>46</sup> IIR 7 130 1056 02

<sup>47</sup> IIR 7 718 0012 02 (Paragraph 2)

<sup>48</sup> IIR 1 663 2532 04

<sup>49</sup> IIR 7 133 0023 01

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director of the Mostar al- Haramain office during the period in which the suspected US Embassy Sarajevo bomb plotters Bensayah Belkacem, ISN US4AG-010001DP, and Sabir Mahfouz Lahmar, ISN US4AG-010002DP, worked for the office.<sup>51</sup>

- (S//NF) Mostar bombing co-conspirator, Ali Hamad noted detainee was an associate of another US Embassy Sarajevo plotter, Mustafa Ait Idir, ISN US4AG-010004DP.<sup>52</sup>
- (S//NF) A 1994 list of names, positions, and radio call signs for members of the Saudi Joint Relief Committee (SJRC) for Kosovo lists detainee's name under the heading of Administration: Finance, and Support.<sup>53</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee is reported to be the leader of al-Takfir Wa al-Hijra in Bosnia. According to a National Air and Space Intelligence Center report on al-Qaida representation in Bosnia, one of the groups first reported to be linked to al-Qaida in Bosnia was the al-Takfir wa al-Hijra, led by Handala al-Saudi (a variant of detainee's alias).<sup>54</sup>
  - (S//NF) Croat authorities arrested Handala al-Saudi, identified as the leader of the "Takfiri" group, for transporting weapons. In June or July 1997, he was released from detention and returned to Bosnia.<sup>55</sup> (Analyst Note: Detainee was imprisoned in Bosnia for the unlawful possession of weapons, which were found in his car. Detainee's release from custody was reportedly arranged by the Saudi High Commission for Relief (SHCR).<sup>56</sup> From 1996 to 1997, detainee received support from the SHCR and maintained close ties to its members.<sup>57</sup>)
- (S//NF) Senior al-Qaida facilitator Sharqawi Abdu Ali al-Hajj, aka (Riyadh the Facilitator), ISN PK9YM-001457DP (YM-1457), reported he saw detainee at Abu

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<sup>50</sup> IIR 4 201 2234 06, Analyst Note: The al-Haramain International Foundation is a National Intelligence Priority Framework (NIPF) Counterterrorism (CT) Priority 2 Terrorist Support Entity (TSE). Priority 2 TSE's have demonstrated sustained and active financial support for terrorist organizations willing to attack US persons or interests, or provide witting operational support to Priority 2 terrorist groups.

<sup>51</sup> IIR 7 130 0120 02

<sup>52</sup> 000669 FM40 08-Nov-2004

<sup>53</sup> TD-314/49641-01, Analyst Note: The SJRC is an NIPF Priority 3 TSE. Priority 3 TSE's have demonstrated intent and willingness to provide financial support to terrorist organizations willing to attack US persons or interests, or provide witting operational support to Priority 1-2 terrorist groups.

<sup>54</sup> NAIC Bosnia NGO Summary 03-DEC-2001, Analyst Note: Al-Takfir wa al-Hijra is an NIPF Priority 5 target. Priority 5 targets are defined as having longer-term issues, opportunities, or threats the IC believes should receive attention that are not already identified as Priorities 1 to 4. This includes other foreign terrorist groups, countries that sponsor terrorism, or countries that have state organizations involved in terrorism, which are considered to be anti-US but are not included in Priorities 1-4.

<sup>55</sup> TD-314/17329-97

<sup>56</sup> 000669 FBIS EUP200220325000195 25-MAR-2002

<sup>57</sup> IIR 7 130 0120 02, Analyst Note: The SHCR is an NIPF Priority 4 TSE. Priority 4 TSE's have available resources and are in a position to provide financial support to terrorist organizations willing to attack US persons or interests, or provide witting operational support to Priority 4 terrorist groups.

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Dhahak's house in Kandahar.<sup>58</sup> (Analyst Note: Abu Dhahak operated a guesthouse in Kandahar and served as the Afghanistan-based financier and facilitator for deceased Chechnya militant commander, Ibn al-Khattab, aka (Emir Khattab). Detainee has not admitted being in Kandahar.)

- (S//NF) Senior al-Qaida operative, Walid Muhammed Salih Bin Attash, aka (Khallad), aka (Silver), ISN US9YM-010014DP (YM-10014), stated he recognized detainee, but was unable to provide any additional information concerning him.<sup>59</sup>
- (S//NF) Detainee was identified as a substitute for an impending multiple suicide at JTF-GTMO.
  - (S//NF) ISN US9SA-000511DP (SA-511) reported detainee was one of three volunteer suicide operatives for a planned multiple suicide event at JTF-GTMO. The original operatives were transferred and had to be replaced by other detainees who remained.<sup>60</sup> (Analyst Note: Suicides at JTF-GTMO, especially multiple suicides, are viewed as a continuation of the fight by the extremist against the US government. Detainee's voluntary support for such a plan indicates his continuing support for extremism and further indicates his willingness to engage the US and its allies if released.)

**c. (S//NF) Detainee's Conduct:** Detainee is assessed to be a **HIGH** threat from a detention perspective. His overall behavior has been sporadically compliant and hostile to the guard force and staff. He currently has 233 Reports of Disciplinary Infraction listed in DIMS with the most recent occurring on 4 April 2008, when he inappropriately used bodily fluids to include feces. He has 16 Reports of Disciplinary Infraction for assault with the most recent occurring on 2 March 2008, when he spat on the guard force. Other incidents for which he has been disciplined include inciting and participating in mass disturbances, failure to follow guard instructions/camp rules, inappropriate use of bodily fluids, unauthorized communications, force cell extraction, exposing sexual organs, damage to government property, attempted assaults, assaults, provoking words and gestures, and possession of food and non-weapon type contraband. In 2007, he had a total of 90 Reports of Disciplinary Infraction and 85 so far in 2008.

## **8. (U) Detainee Intelligence Value Assessment:**

**a. (S) Assessment:** Detainee is assessed to be of **HIGH** intelligence value. Detainee's most recent interrogation session occurred on 23 February 2005.

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<sup>58</sup> IIR 6 034 0059 05, Analyst Note: Handhla is a variant of Handala. See IIR 6 034 0110 05 for additional reporting on Abu Dhahak.

<sup>59</sup> TD-314/55561-05

<sup>60</sup> >000511 SIR 13-Oct-2007

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**b. (S//NF) Placement and Access:** Detainee was connected to extremist and terrorist networks in Bosnia, beginning from the mid-1990s. Detainee is implicated in the murder of a US citizen, a car bombing in Bosnia, recruitment for anti-American attacks, and possibly the USS COLE attack. Detainee has connections to al-Qaida, its personnel, training camps in Afghanistan, and potentially other terrorist plots.

**c. (S//NF) Intelligence Assessment:** Detainee has yet to provide an accurate account of his activities in Bosnia and Afghanistan. As such, his true intelligence value is unknown, but assessed to be high based on the information provided by other detainees in US and foreign custody. Detainee's long-running ties to terrorism allow him to have information on the early stages of al-Qaida involvement in the Bosnian conflict, its activities in Afghanistan, its training camps, guesthouses, and members. Detainee probably has information on al-Qaida plots, its manipulation of NGOs, and individuals in detention at JTF-GTMO, to include YM-1463.

**d. (S//NF) Areas of Potential Exploitation:**

- Bosnian terrorist activities
  - Death of William Jefferson
  - Bombing attacks (planning, logistics, and funding)
  - Recruitment
  - False documents (procurement and distribution, as well as links to Afghanistan)
  - Al-Takfir Wa al-Hijra and other NGO support to extremism
- Al-Qaida
  - Members
  - Guesthouses
  - Training camps
  - Plots including USS COLE attack and the US Embassy Sarajevo plot
  - Funding and logistics
- Links to NGOs
- Terrorists, extremists, and associated organizations means of communication in Bosnia, Germany, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Afghanistan and Pakistan

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9. **(S) EC Status:** Detainee's enemy combatant status was reassessed on 24 October 2004, and he remains an enemy combatant.



DAVID M. THOMAS JR.  
Rear Admiral, US Navy  
Commanding

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\* Definitions for intelligence terms used in the assessment can be found in the Joint Military Intelligence College October 2001 guide *Intelligence Warning Terminology*.